

**Draft**

**Indiana Land Resources Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: July 31, 2001

Location: Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture

**Members Present:**

Joe Pearson  
Bob Guernsey  
David Hess  
Eric Kelly  
Mary McConnell  
Riely O'Connor  
Sam Smith  
Don Strietelmeier

**Members Absent:**

Lt. Governor Joe Kernan  
John Fernandez

**OCA Staff:**

Joe Tutterrow  
Sara Westrick

---

Assistant Commissioner Joe Pearson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Bob Guernsey moved and Riely O'Connor seconded the motion to approve the May 22nd, 2001 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Joe Tutterrow introduced Sara Westrick to the Council. Sara was hired at a Land Use/Brownfield Specialist to work with the Council and the Indiana Development Finance Authority.

**Operating Principles**

The Council discussed and edited the Guiding Principles document. By consensus the Council approved the document (see attached).

**Indiana Land Use Forum**

Joyce Martin, Chief Council for the Governor, provided an update of the Indiana Land Use Forum. Governor O'Bannon's Executive Order 01-03 created the Forum. The Forum will submit recommendations to the Governor's office in March 2002. Martin offered the following key points:

- Local control and local decisions continue to be the focus.
- There needs to be greater consistency among state agencies.
- The Forum has brought key state agencies together.
- The group may or may not sunset...it depends on the March 2002 recommendations.

Following Martin's presentation, the Council offered the following questions for the Forum to consider:

- What is the role of state government relative to local government land use decisions?
- What role does planning, or the existence of a plan have on local decisions being made?
- Are state and local investments for infrastructure such as highways, sewers, utilities, etc. being coordinated?
- Will each agency be more sensitive to land use as a result of Executive Order 01-03?

## **Center for Urban Policy and the Environment (The Center) – “A Proposal for Indicators for Land Resources in Indiana”**

Jamie Palmer, Planner and Research Associate for The Center, provided an update of the statewide Planning & Zoning Survey. Palmer led a discussion about the Center’s “Proposal for Indicators for the Land Resources Council.” Using a (causal) indicator model will provide structure for presenting land use indicators. It will also help with the development of a work plan and provide the format for an annual “State of the Land” report. Eric Kelly moved and Mary McConnell seconded the motion that the Council accept The Center’s recommendation to use this model. The Council unanimously approved.

The Center recommended that the Council focus on two issues over the next year. Discussion about the framework (page 1 of the proposal) led to the following comments by the council:

- Households should be examined as well as population trends.
- Job data should be included and compared with population data.
- Raw data is important...it is a measure of conversion.
- The review should go back to the 80s and look at census data, building starts (permits), etc. Conversion data may not be available.
- In addition to the issues selected, the ILRC should continue to focus on
  - | Networking
  - | Workshops
  - | Educational Forums
- Possible issues to focus on include:
  - | Acres protected in conservation easements.
  - | Brownfields...conversion could be linked to investment. There is a lack of inventory information on Brownfields.
  - | Conversion and factors that affect conversion need to be studied.
  - | Conservation Easements and Geographic Information Systems (G.I.S.)
  - | Barriers to development.

The Council needs to reach agreement on the focus areas for next year. Joe Tutterrow will meet with The Center to follow-up and prepare additional information for the September Council meeting.

## **White Papers**

The Council discussed White Papers and agreed by consensus to use the attached format. There may be exceptions for existing papers.

White Paper topics were reviewed and individuals identified for follow-up responsibilities:

- Brownfields – Calvin Kelly will help.
- Forestlands – Joe Tutterrow and Sam Smith will pursue.
- Dumb Growth is expensive – Eric Kelly
- E-commerce – Eric Kelly
- Transportation – Eric Kelly will provide names.
- Wetland Issues/Processes/Steps (Permitting) – Mark Thornburg (Farm Bureau) will pursue.
- Cost of Community Services – Sources of information include Larry DeBoer (Purdue University), Rick Wajda (Indiana Builders Association) and Morton Marcus (Indiana University)
- Tools – Central Indiana Regional Citizens League (CIRCL) is developing a toolbox.
- Viability of Agriculture...long-term Smart Growth (MD) – focus development in re-developing or developing areas
- Water Quality & Land Use

- Planning & Zoning (Developing & un-developed areas)

### **Updates**

Updates were provided on the “Gaining Ground: Natural Resource Professionals Exploring Land Use Solutions Conference” and the Ultimate Farmland Preservation Tour. The Gaining Ground Conference is scheduled for October 23 and 24 in Indianapolis, and the Farmland Tour is scheduled for September 6 – 10 in Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Joe Tutterrow shared information about the Belvedere Fund. The Council recommended pursuing any appropriate funding opportunities.

Joe Tutterrow distributed information about the Community Character Act that was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives earlier in 2001.

Copies of the new ILRC brochure were distributed to Council members (see attached).

With no time for additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Joe Tutterrow, Director